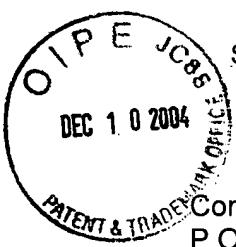


IFW

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In the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office



Inventor: Messerschmidt et al.
 Serial number: 10/628,839
 Filed: 7/28/2003
 Title: Sample Holder
 Paper:
 Group: 2872
 Examiner: Nguyen, Thong Q

Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Response to Office Action

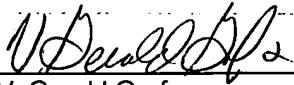
Responsive to the Office Action mailed 11/12/2004, Applicant submits the following in complete response thereto, and requests reconsideration of the Claims presented.

Applicant hereby submits a replacement for the section titled "In the Claims," pages 6-8 in the response mailed 6/30/2004, and the totality of the response mailed 8/2/2004, with corrections of the status indicators as requested by the Office.

Applicant hereby submits a replacement for the section titled "In the Specification," pages 3-5 in the response mailed 6/30/2004, correcting the ambiguity of claim numbering identified by the Office. The content of the addition to the Specification is intended to comprise examples according to the present invention, and not to replace the claims.

Applicant has responded to each and every rejection and urges that the Claims as presented are in condition for allowance. Applicant requests expeditious processing to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,

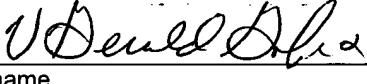

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Dec 6, 2004
 date

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited on the date shown below with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents; P.O. Box 1450; Alexandria VA 22313-1450.

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